

West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376;

File Nos. 1058-1733, 1036-1744, 948-1692, and Permit No. 605-1607-01: Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371;

File No. 948-1692 and Permit No. 605-1607-01: Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320; and

File Nos. 1058-1733 and 808-1735: Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on the particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301)713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Additionally, comments may be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing email comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include the appropriate File No. (808-1735, 1036-1744, 1058-1733, 948-1692, or 605-1607) as a document identifier in the subject line of the e-mail comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Tammy Adams, Jill Lewandowski or Carrie Hubard at (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permits and permit amendment are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

File No. 808-1735: The applicant requests a 5-year permit for suction cup attachment of data logging tags to humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), minke (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), fin (*B. physalus*), sei (*B. borealis*) and blue (*B. musculus*) whales to examine their

foraging behavior relative to krill patches in waters surrounding Antarctica.

File No. 1036-1744: The applicant requests a 5-year permit to conduct aerial surveys to assess seasonal abundance and distribution of the North Atlantic right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) and other marine mammals in the New York Bight and surrounding waters, which will enhance the survey work performed by the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center's Sighting Advisory System.

File No. 1058-1733: The applicant requests a 5-year permit for suction cup attachment of data logging tags to right whales in the North Atlantic and to blue, fin, humpback, sei, and Antarctic minke (*B. bonaerensis*) whales in the Southern Ocean to study diving and foraging behavior. The primary objectives are to: (1) develop a predictive model of right whale distribution; (2) determine overlap between right whale diving behavior and vertical structure of nearby fixed fishing gear; and (3) to understand trophic interactions between baleen whales and Antarctic krill and document the effect of whale predation on krill patch size and structure.

File No. 948-1692: The applicant requests a 5-year permit to investigate the distributions of North Atlantic right whales and humpback whales in mid-Atlantic waters using aerial and vessel-based surveys. These surveys will assist in understanding the seasonal distribution of these whales in Mid-Atlantic waters.

Permit No. 605-1607-01: Permit No. 605-1607-01, issued on June 11, 2001 (66 FR 32794) and which expires on June 30, 2006, currently authorizes the holder to assess the health, status, and trends of humpback, fin, sei, and North Atlantic right whales off the U.S. Atlantic coast from southern Maine to northern Florida through photo-identification, remote biopsy sampling, and attachment of time-depth recorders, VHF tags, and Crittercams. The permit holder requests an amendment to increase the number of humpback and fin whales that can be suction cup tagged from 10 per year per species to 25 per year per species, and to increase the number of approaches/attempts per tag from 2 per animal to 5 per animal. The purpose of the suction cup mounted data logging tags is to study underwater behavior of the whales on their feeding grounds in New England waters and to gather information about noise levels and whale responses to vessel noise and vessel approaches.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**,

NMFS is forwarding copies of these applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: March 31, 2004.

Stephen L. Leathery,
Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education
Division, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 04-7818 Filed 4-6-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033104C]

Availability of the Draft Guidelines for the Climate Change Science Program Synthesis and Assessment Products

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) is announcing the availability of the Draft Guidelines for the CCSP Synthesis and Assessment Products, which are described in the Strategic Plan for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program (<http://www.climatechange.gov/Library/stratplan2003/final/default.htm>). The synthesis and assessment products are intended to provide useful information for a variety of users about key climate change topics. The products include reports, data sets, and evaluations of the uses and limits of climate information for decisionmaking. See Chapter 2 of the Strategic Plan for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program for a detailed description of the products.

Your comments are requested on the effectiveness of the proposed guidelines for (1) ensuring scientific integrity and (2) facilitating public involvement in the products. All comments should be sent electronically to comments@climatechange.gov. Please refer to the instructions for formatting and submitting comments (<http://www.climatechange.gov/Library/sap/sap-reviewinstructions.htm>) to facilitate the collation of comments received into a master set for review by the CCSP.

DATES: Comments must be received by May 7, 2004. The comments received by this date will be posted on the CCSP web site.

ADDRESSES: The Draft Guidelines for the CCSP Synthesis and Assessment Products are available on the CCSP web

site at <http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap-guidelines-29mar2004.pdf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sandy MacCracken, 1-202-419-3483 (voice), U.S. Climate Change Science Program, Suite 250, 1717 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

CCSP Products and Guidelines

The Climate Change Science Program is an interagency endeavor, with 13 participating Federal agencies and departments. One or more of the agencies that comprise CCSP will have the lead responsibility for preparing each product. The topic of the product, lead and supporting agencies, and time frame for producing the product are listed in a table available at <http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap-summary.htm>. This table also provides information regarding which CCSP interagency working groups are collaborating in the production of each product. The national and international research community is anticipated to play a major role in preparation of many of the products.

To ensure consistency and transparency in the processes that will be used by the lead and supporting CCSP agencies in preparing the products, the guidelines currently under review describe the steps to be followed in each of four phases of the preparation process—framing, drafting, review, and production. This product development will facilitate involvement of the research community and the public in ensuring that the products meet the highest standards of scientific excellence. The guidelines also encourage transparency by ensuring that public information about the status of the products will be provided on the CCSP web site (<http://www.climate-science.gov>).

Dated: April 1, 2004.

James R. Mahoney,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Director, U.S. Climate Change Science Program.

[FR Doc. 04-7902 Filed 4-6-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-S

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB

review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: ED Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, *e.g.* new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: March 31, 2004.

Angela C. Arrington,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Institute of Education Sciences

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: 2005 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES: 2005).

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: Individuals or household.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden: Responses: 2,350; Burden Hours: 302.

Abstract: NHES: 2005 is a survey of households using random-digit-dialing and computer-assisted telephone interviewing. Three topical surveys are to be conducted in NHES: 2005: Early

Childhood Program Participation (ECPP), After-School Programs and Activities (ASPA), and Adult Education and Lifelong Learning (AELL). ECPP and ASPA will provide current measures of participation in early childhood education, after-school programs, and other forms of non-parental care, as well as in-home and out-of-home activities. AELL will provide in-depth information on the participation of adults in a wide range of training and education activities.

Requests for copies of the submission for OMB review; comment request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2444. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivan.reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Katrina Ingalls at her e-mail address Katrina.Ingalls@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 04-7827 Filed 4-6-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 7, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or